

Message Text

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21-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BURSSLS UNN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T LUXEMBOURG 0709

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, NATO, LU

SUBJ: US RELATIONS WITH EC AND NATO

SUMMARY: MFA SECRETARY GENERAL PIERRE WURTH, WHO IS LUXEMBOURG'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE EC POLITICAL COMMITTEE, TOLD US THAT HE IS RELATIVELY OPTIMISTIC FOLLOWING THE EC-US MEETINGS IN NEW YORK. WURTH SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE US MUST CLEARLY DEFINE SOME OF THE TERMS WE FAVOR, FOR EXAMPLE "PARTNERSHIP", "COMMON PURPOSES", AND "CONSULTATIVE AND COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS". HE EXPLAINED THAT THE NON-EC COUNTRIES IN NATO WOULD STRONGLY OBJECT TO STRATEGIC QUESTIONS
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BEING DISCUSSED IN THE US-EC DECLARATION. WURTH ALSO MENTIONED THAT HE HOPED THE US WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT A DEGREE OF POLITICAL CONSULTATION AMONG THE NINE WAS NECESSARY AS A STEP TOWARDS EVENTUAL EUROPEAN POLITICAL

INTEGRATION. IN ORDER TO RESPECT THE GOL VIEW OF "EUROPEANISM", LUXEMBOURG WILL PROBABLY FIRST COMMENT ON US AMENDMENTS TO THE EC DRAFT WHEN THE EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEET IN COPENHAGEN ON OCTOBER 11-12. ON THE QUESTION OF A NATO DECLARATION, WURTH SUGGESTED THAT THE US MIGHT DO BEST TO AGREE TO USE THE FRENCH DRAFT AS THE BASIS FOR A FINAL DECLARATION. HE STRONGLY SUPPORTED OUR VIEWS THAT THE NATO MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT A HEAD-OF-GOVERNMENT LEVEL. END SUMMARY

1. SEPTEMBER 29 MEETING IN NEW YORK BETWEEN EC POLITICAL COMMITTEE AND US OFFICIALS
WURTH COMMENTED THAT HE WAS "RELATIVELY OPTIMISTIC" AFTER THIS MEETING SINCE THE SPIRIT AND CONTENT OF THE DISCUSSIONS WERE POSITIVE. IN GIVING US HIS PRELIMINARY REACTIONS TO US AMENDMENTS BEFORE HE CONSULTED FOREIGN MINISTER THORN, WURTH SAID THAT HE WANTED THE US TO FURTHER DEFINE EXACTLY WHAT WE MEAN BY "PARTNERSHIP", ESPECIALLY WHEN WE REFER TO IT IN AN EAST-WEST CONTEXT. HE REPEATED THE COMMENT THAT HE HAD MADE IN THE SEPTEMBER 29 MEETING WHEN HE ASKED THAT OUR REFERENCE TO "COMMON PURPOSES" BE CLEARLY EXPLAINED. WURTH ADDED THAT THE EC AND THE US SHOULD MAKE PERFECTLY CLEAR WHETHER THIS CONCEPT OF PARTNERSHIP EXTENDS TO OUR COMMON RELATIONS WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD.

2. WITH REGARD TO THE USE OF THE WORD "DETENTE", WURTH SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THAT THIS SUBJECT COULD BEST BE HANDLED IN A NATO CONTEXT. IN THIS CONNECTION HE ADDED THAT ANY REFERENCES TO "AN ATLANTIC ALLIANCE" AND TO A "COMMON DEFENSE" SHOULD ALSO BE COVERED IN THE NATO FORUM. WURTH SAID THAT THE EC AND THE US MUST BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL NOT TO ALARM THE NON-EC MEMBERS OF NATO BY DEVOTING AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE EC-US DECLARATION TO STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS. THE CANADIANS AND NORWEGIANS WERE ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE ON THESE POINTS AND HAD MADE CLEAR TO THE GOL THAT THEY WERE OPPOSED TO
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ANY STRATEGIC DISCUSSION IN A STRICTLY EC-US FORUM.

3. WURTH SAID THAT THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS DID NOT HAVE A CHANCE TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER 29 MEETING AMONG THEMSELVES WHILE IN NEW YORK. THEY DID MEET LATER IN THE DAY BUT ONLY TO DISCUSS EC TACTICS AT THE CSCE NEGOTIATIONS NAMELY, HOW TO RESPOND TO EASTERN OBJECTIONS TO AN EC REPRESENTATIVE ON THE DANISH DELEGATION AT CSCE.

4. CONSULTATION BETWEEN EC AND US
WURTH SAID THAT HE WANTED TO TELL US FRANKLY THAT HE WAS "SURPRISED" THAT THE US WAS STILL QUESTIONING THE

PRACTICE OF CONSULTATION WITHIN THE NINE BEFORE THE EC REPRESENTATIVES HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE US. THOSE WITHIN THE EC WHO ARE COMMITTED TO EUROPEAN POLITICAL INTEGRATION BELIEVE THAT THE EC POLITICAL COORDINATION, WHICH BEGAN IN PREPARATION FOR THE CSCE CONFERENCE, MUST CONTINUE. HE COMMENTED THAT THE EC COUNTRIES WOULD, OF COURSE, ACCEPT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE US BUT THAT THE NINE MUST ALSO AGREE ON COMMON POSITIONS, HOWEVER TENTATIVE, THEMSELVES. HE ALSO HOPED THAT THE US WOULD HANDLE ANY BILATERAL TALKS IN A SPIRIT OF OPEN EXCHANGE AMONG FRIENDS AND ALLIES AND NOT BE TEMPTED TO USE THESE CONSULTATIONS AS A WAY TO PROMULGATE DIVISIONS WITHIN THE EC. WURTH FURTHER COMMENTED THAT WHILE THE FRENCH ARE FAVORABLE TO THE CONTINUANCE OF BILATERAL CONSULTATION BETWEEN EC COUNTRIES AND THE US, PARIS IS ALSO INSISTING ON A COMMON EC POSITION IN DEALINGS WITH THE US. PARIS IS "TORN" ON THIS ISSUE BECAUSE THE FRENCH REALIZE THAT IF THE FRG AND THE UK RELY HEAVILY ON THEIR OWN BILATERAL TALKS WITH THE US TO DISCUSS EUROPEAN QUESTIONS, THE FRENCH MIGHT FIND THEMSELVES ISOLATED ON MANY ISSUES. WURTH ALSO MENTIONED THAT THE GOL WOULD LIKELY RESERVE ITS DETAILED COMMENTS ON THE US AMENDMENTS TO THE EC DRAFT FOR THE MEETING OF EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS IN COPENHAGEN ON OCTOBER 11-12. WURTH SAID THAT HE COULD NOT BE SURE HOW MANY EC COUNTRIES WOULD WANT TO CONSULT BILATERALLY WITH US THROUGH THEIR EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON ON THESE AMENDMENTS BEFORE THE OCTOBER 11-12 MEETING.

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5. NATO DOCUMENT

WURTH SAID THAT THE GOL REACTED VERY POSITIVELY TO THE FRENCH DRAFT OF A NATO DECLARATION. HE SAID THAT IT MIGHT BE JUDICIOUS TO USE THE FRENCH DRAFT AS THE BASIS FOR A DISCUSSION OF A DECLARATION WITHIN NATO RATHER THAN SUBMITTING A RIVAL US DRAFT. HE BELIEVES THAT THE FRENCH WOULD BE MORE LIKELY TO ACCEPT CHANGES IN THE FORM OF A MODIFICATION OF THEIR OWN DOCUMENT RATHER THAN IF THESE IDEAS WERE DELIVERED IN THE FORM OF A US DRAFT. ON THE QUESTION OF A SITE FOR THE NATO MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, WURTH COMMENTED THAT IT MIGHT FACILITATE MATTERS IF WE COULD AGREE TO HOLD IT IN PARIS. WURTH WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE THOUGHT THE US WAS "ABSOLUTELY RIGHT" IN INSISTING THAT THE NATO MEETING BE HELD AT HEAD-OF-GOVERNMENT LEVEL AND THAT THE GOL WOULD SUPPORT US ON THIS ISSUE. HE THINKS THAT IT IS "MOST UNREASONABLE" FOR THE NORWEGIANS, DUTCH, DANISH AND POSSIBLY OTHERS TO REFUSE TO MEET WITH THE PORTUGUESE AND GREEKS AT HEAD-OF-GOVERNMENT LEVEL. WURTH SAID THAT IF THE US, UK, FRANCE AND ITALY ALL AGREED TO HOLD A NATO MEETING OF HEADS-OF-GOVERNMENT, THIS VIEW WOULD FINALLY PREVAIL AMONG THOSE WHO NOW OBJECT TO THIS

LEVEL. FARKAS

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